

Making butter, //nubu, is done in the following way: the sour milk is poured from the wooden pail into a calabash, aba-s. This gourd flask, the narrow opening of which is closed with a wooden plug, is rolled at a slant on a soft base that is usually made of skins. This is done in the bright sunlight or near a fire. After rolling for about three hours, the gourd is finally moved so slowly that the butter can collect on the top. Then the fluid is drawn off and drunk, and the butter, aba//nu/i-b, i.e., calabash fat, is piled in a wooden pail (!kzao, verb); it is eaten either fresh (*!kzao//nu/i-b) or fried (*/gē-be//nu/i-b).

To increase the amount of butter the fresh thicker roots of a plant which resembles in habitat a *Portulaca* of the Kalahari, is placed in the milk calabash. Because the body (/kzab) of the plant is well covered (*!kzab) with hairs (/ū-!gu) it bears the name /ū-!za/kza-s.

The mashi a madila of the Bechuans corresponds to the */hu-nin/hu-ni-milk of the Hottentots. The fresh milk is poured into a similarly-named calabash which has an opening cut out the width of a hand and is left standing for about two days until it is curdled, leaving a watery sourish fluid at the top and a firm mass at the bottom (!hare-b).

[188] The wooden milk pail (//hoē-s) is preferably carved from the wood of a willow-like tree (*hūi-b) that grows abundantly in the Orange River wadi. A handmade funnel, //kzaru-s, also seems to belong to the original dairy utensils of the Hottentots; I did not get a chance to see it.

Fresh goat's milk is the chief food of the Hottentot children; the adults also drink it first in order to keep the cow's milk for butter.

In addition to game from hunting and the products of cattle raising there are many foods of "the little people" as they might be called, which the Hottentot seeks in the wilderness or obtains by chance. An impoverished, nomadic folk has to rely on gathering its food in such a manner.

There are no mammals that the impoverished Hottentot will not eat: mice; hares; rock rabbits; porcupines, "dwarfs" (probably *Cynictis penicillata* G. Cuv.), wildcats and jackals; I saw them all put in the cooking pot. Even hyenas are eaten. Eating their heart is supposed to make one extremely sleepy, a superstition that evidently originated from the heavy daytime sleep of the hyena.

Birds other than those hunted (cf. Hunt) are sometimes caught and eaten by children. On the other hand the adults sometimes do not despise turtles and lizards. The turtle, Waxuri-s (in Little Namaland: /hu-/rob), is killed with a stone and roasted in an open fire in its shell. Meat and eggs are enjoyed without anything added to them. If the woman wants to use the shell as a buchu box, the soft parts are scooped out, the intestines removed and the rest roasted. [Picture: Zonurus polyzonus Smith. actual size]¹

Several kinds of lizards, such as the one pictured here, called *//uru-s, are roasted in the hot ashes and eaten primarily by the young Hottentots. [189] The fat of the //uru-s and of a new Mabuia species which is taken from the body of a freshly killed animal, is wrapped in grass by the children and sucked like candy.

The insect world also provides the Hottentots with several welcome dishes. The most modest one consists of a kind of beetle called *!nu/ms. These beetles are eaten only by the children, roasted or raw, after the head, legs and wings are pulled off. [Picture: larva of Acanthophorus capensis White, on the left hiding in a passage made by itself, about 4/5 natural size). The starvelings "Bushmen" who roam around in Great Namaland eat a large black beetle, Acanthophorus capensis White, called */naori-b, prepared in the same economic way. The finger-sized larva of this beetle, the thorn tree worm, *//kzū-#u-#nis, bores into the heart wood of the Acacia horrida Willd deep long tunnels, which it fills with its excrement. The digested wood mass, often drenched with the fluid rosin of the tree, overflows out of the bore-holes and solidifies to a dark-brown crisp mass which looks as though it had a sugar coating. It is eagerly collected and eaten by the Hottentots, both young and old. [Picture: Acanthophorus capensis White. About 4/5 natural size.]

[190] The larva themselves are also a delicacy. In order to reach them, they burn the thorn tree when it is moribund or dead. With sharp sticks they pull out of the glowing wood larvae that have cooked in their own fat. Or they wait until the larva sticks its rear out of the bored hole for passing excrement and spear it with a thorn.

Finding a home of edible termites demands sharper eyes than finding the thorn worms. One must find the place to dig down into the underground dwelling of Hodotermes viator (Latr.). The dung of the animals gives the first indication, tiny balls that lie in heaps ranging in size from very tiny ones to those as large as mole hills. In the area of these dung heaps can be found the mouths of the underground

¹[See p.16(A)-An.] ²[See p.16(B),-An.]

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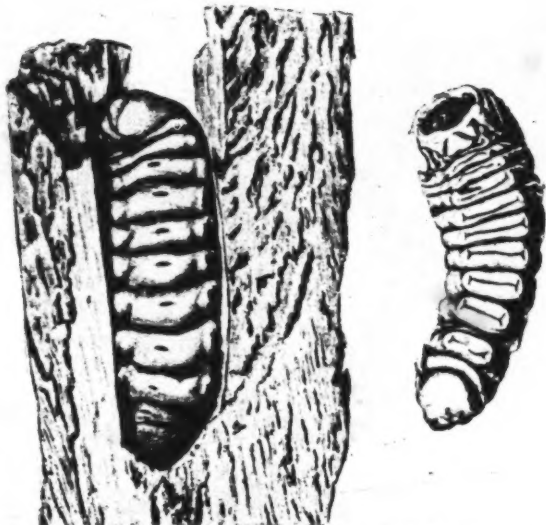
[p.188]



Zonurus polyzonus Smith. Actual size.

[p.189]

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Larva of Acanthophorus capensis White, on the left hiding in a passage made by itself, about 4/5 natural size.



Acanthophorus capensis White. About 4/5 natural size.

passages, pea-sized openings in the ground. If one follows these passages, one will come to the house at varying depths, sometimes only 1 to 1 1/2 feet under the surface, if a rock or hard layer of ground sheathes the soft ground and gives the house protection from above. Sometimes, however, one must dig down 6 feet before one reaches one's goal.

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The underground dwelling has the shape of a lens, about 1/2 meter in circumference and 20 to 25 centimeters high. The material used for building is a brittle, fragile, yellowish-grey, paper-thin mass; it is resistant to water. One can immerge the house in water for days without its falling apart. It merely becomes soft and less fragile.

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The house is built up of about 40 stories, each averaging about 1/2 centimeter in height. Although at first glance the labyrinth with its many hundred rooms that communicate on all sides may seem complicated, nevertheless a simple principal of construction can be divined: the spiral passageway. The innumerable spiral passageways are sometimes widely separated, sometimes right next to each other, sometimes with even, horizontal flights, sometimes with sharp angled axes and correspondingly steep paths, but the construction is always such that the course of each passage passes into that of the neighboring one without any interruption. Thus chambers, halls, corridors, gates and columns arise.

The composition of the inhabitants changes according to the season. In July of 1904 I found in one structure eggs, larvae in all stages up to the adult worker, workers of various sizes, large-chinned soldiers, [191] three queens about 2 1/2 centimeters long, and finally, * in addition to a few undeveloped insects, numerous nymphs,

*In the nests of Hodotermes viator (Latr.) I found a new Cetoniinae, Trichoplus aepytus Kolbe. The Hottentots know this companion of the termites well. It is about 9 centimeters long and of an even black color. They call it //kʰaʊʰams.

mostly without wings.

These fat white nymphs, that are 12 millimeters long, are the goal of the Hottentot. First he shovels the whole house with its inhabitants and clinging earth into a sack. He sorts out what is edible in his hut. To do this he shakes the mass bit by bit into a vessel containing lukewarm water and stirs up the bottom with a stick

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[Picture. Farob, a tea fern. 5/4 natural size.]

Tobacco is indispensable to Hottentots of both sexes. It is the first thing they reach for after waking up in the morning. They have it in the form of large rolls or in firmly packed flat American packets. Because the smoker first cuts (xao) it, then stuffs (//hā) it in his pipe, they call it xao//hā/b, unless they prefer the foreign word ta-bagab. Wild hemp, da-ab, which the Bechuans are so fond of smoking, is not unknown in Namaland but is more rarely used. The Hottentots are economical smokers. They inhale the smoke deeply, and keep it in as long as they can and let it slowly trail out of their mouth and nose. Particularly economical smokers wipe the tobacco tar into a little leather wallet, fnuni-//ga-rus. If their supply of tobacco is used up, they cut up the leather that is drenched in nicotine and smoke the pieces mixed with chopped straw. [272] 276 [415]

Alcohol was always known to the Hottentots. When they live way out on the veld and cannot get this stimulant except as their ancestors did, [205] they still brew their honey beer, !kxa-rib. 273

The wild African honey bees (called !habu-b) in Namaland usually build their honeycombs in caves, more rarely in hollow trees. The Hottentot knows exactly the individual parts of the bees' house. He differentiates exactly the pollen (na/o-b) stored up in the comb from the virgin honey (hū-danib). His generic term for honey is dani-b. The waxy bee cells which are joined together into a comb and which float to the surface after being emptied when one makes sugar beer, are called */ha-ʔ mi. The honeycomb in which the brood lies is differentiated by the word /ā/b, and *tsēb or tsērab is the word for the material which the bee uses to roof over the honeycomb. [134] 222 [273] [825]

The cave, near which the bees are seen, is first poked with a long stick as thick as one's finger. If honey sticks to the tip of the stick, a firebrand is placed in the entrance to the cave to drive the bees as far away as possible. Then a man creeps into the cave and breaks off the honeycomb with a wooden forked hoe.

If the cave is too small for a man to creep inside and if the only entrance is a slit the width of a hand, then they use a special honey stick, *!a-rub or !a-nib. They cut a long stick about the thickness of the little finger from the branches of the taai bush or even better from the roots of the thorn tree and attach to the front end with strips of leather two lighter little pieces of wood //gaĩnkxa, the length of a finger, that have a sharp point and are faced towards the back. This 222 413

The Hottentot women love to paint dark, fantastic masks on their faces. 302
Black or red powder is rubbed with a leather cloth on the face which has 386
been previously greased. They get black powder from the knotty parts of 824
the lower trunk of a Pelargonium, which are thoroughly roasted and then
a dusty, crumbly, dark mass can be easily knocked off their bark. Those
who prefer red make a powder called *iguf from the dry heartwood of a
giraffe acacia. When the face is all powdered, the painted parts of the
face are sharply outlined with a damp tip of a cloth in front of a mirror.
Here and there the face is wiped clean, until the face is partly covered
as with a Mardi gras mask, out of which sometimes only the eyes and
nostrils peer or perhaps the side parts of the forehead and the cheeks show,
according to the taste of the artist.

4. Care of the Hair

Care of the hair is usually completely neglected. Along the coast, 302
the Hottentot sometimes washes his head with the yokes of raw penguin
eggs in order [211] to encourage the growth of hair. I never saw anyone
with his hair cut. An old-fashioned Hottentot used to brush his hair with
the rough, dried mucous membrane of a cow's tongue.

A jackal's tail or a silver jackal's tail corresponds to our handkerchief 823
or they use a thick bushy tail of the Otocyon megalotis Desmar, or at times 829
a bundle of ostrich feathers; *ina-bes or gams is the name of this handker-
chief.

The coastal Hottentots have more fleas and the inhabitants of the more [136] ●
elevated parts of the country have more lice.

F. Medicine

The medicine of the Hottentots has not been aided at all by the ex- 826
cellent anatomical knowledge which each person acquires in his childhood 753
from cutting up slaughtered cattle and wild game. They have no or only
isolated and confused ideas about the functions of the individual parts of the
body and if there is no externally evident reason for the trouble in the sick
body, they do not use their anatomical knowledge.

Thus they attribute various pains in the upper leg or even in the lower 757
leg to a falling of the intestines. Massaging in the direction towards the 757
abdomen is supposed to press the displaced intestines back. But first the sick

1: Schultze--43A N-5 (1903-1905) 1907 FX13 Hottentot FX13
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The "Jump Snake," Scelotes capensis Gthr. ,
1/2 natural size.

completely healed after several days, the needle is removed and re- 301
placed by an earring. There were many complaints about painful 304
swelling of the ear lobes after being pierced. [Picture. Iron earrings.
9/10 natural size.]

Necklaces of rosin beads are one bit of jewelry which holds its own 301
against all imported bright glass kinds, even though difficult to make 306
and unassuming in appearance. [252] The yellow rosin of an Othonna [824]
species (called gũ/s) is rubbed with the cold coals of the hearth fire.
This mixture (a powder) is warmed with a burning piece of wood and
kneaded with the other hand at the same time. The warm mass is
rolled into sausages with the flat of the hand on a smooth surface.
Little pieces are taken from these sausage rolls and formed into pills
over the fire. The pills are put on slivers of wood (so that the wood
goes through them) and after hardening, strung on sinew, often alter-
nating regularly with bright stones or glass beads. The bead necklaces 301
(called the same as the plant from which they are fashioned) are often
combined to a thick bundle of chains, *//ga-!mi, which has good trading
value among Hottentots. A chain which will wind ten times loosely [435]
around the neck and reach down to the breast has the value of a nanny
goat. [Picture. Necklaces. Top and bottom: made of rosin. In
the middle: made of ostrich eggshells.]

Imported glass beads are popular. The large-beaded necklaces 301
are differentiated by the word !a!ms from the small-beaded ones 439
*ga-rab. Ankle rings, *!go-ro!ku-ib, consisting of thickset rows of
little glass beads, are still occasionally worn under the skin shoes.

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Capitulum III

The Hottentot's Mode of Living

Great Namaland, a typical dry area of South Africa, has such 221
scanty growth in its limited area that it cannot provide the animal 137
world with sufficient food and water. The characteristic animals of 136
the South African grassy plains, at the same time its most valuable
wildlife, the antelopes, must roam over extensive areas just to get
a meager living. Like the predatory animals, the hunters follow these 221
herds; wherever the native has exchanged this unsettled way of life, 233
which one day leaves him in need, the next day with a surplus, for the
regulated life of a herdsman, he finds himself forced more than ever
to wander, the more numerous his cattle (/go-an) become. [Picture.
South African ox wagon.]

1. The Wild Animals*

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*This will only be a list, and when it seems valuable in the interest of lucidity for those not familiar with local conditions, there will be a brief description of the huntable animals of Great Namaland [Footnote goes on to p. 269] according to their most obvious characteristics. Closer observations about their way of life and a completion of the list from the zoological standpoint will be given later.

The wild animals which the Hottentot still hunts represent only a skimpy remnant of the wealth of his former hunting grounds. All the wild animals which can be hunted are called am/nēn, [269] ʔa-manin, *ʔabaran or ʔamaren. The large wild animals of the Hottentot hunter are, except for the ostrich and the zebra, only of historical interest. Foremost stands:

1. The elephant, Elephas africanus (Blumenb.) (Cape D. ¹/_λ Oliphant) called *kʔoa-b.

Although for two generations or longer no Hottentot has seen an elephant in his homeland, I still found a few recollections from the time when it was hunted. It is supposed to have been a major rule that none of the hunters should have intercourse with his wife the night before a hunt; otherwise the elephant would point at him with his trunk and throw earth at him. The guilty one could no longer take part in the hunt then.

The position of the teats in front on the breast and the shape of the vulva awoke the easily excited sensuality of the Hottentots. One Hottentot told me the following hunting story: Two brothers-in-law went out and after a successful hunt the older one warned the younger one not to approach the downed elephant from behind, but he paid no attention to the warning and was punished by an uncontrollable erection which made him walk lame (*i) and still makes him the laughing stock of all hearers of the joke. The wording of the story was: kʔoe /uigukʔa ʔa i gye gye !auhe *kʔoana. okʔa gye *kʔoasa gye lgam. ob gye gaiba go si tsi: "tā kʔaos /kʔab ai i," ti go mī. ʔabeb gye *kʔama go i tsi *kʔoas di /oasa mū tsi *gūi tsi /i go /kʔi. ob gye gaiba: "tareē dī tsi?" ob gye: "m'm, ʔu tomat" ti go mī.

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¹/_λ [i.e., Cnp. Dutch or Boer. - Analyst]

Nowadays the elephant has vanished from Namaland forever. In 136
the northern parts of Herero Land it is supposedly slowly returning.

Formerly the elephant was widespread in South Africa. In the Transvaal, in the territory of the Matabele chief, Moselikatse, Captain Harris found an astonishing number of elephants, alone in a valley, peacefully shut off, hundreds of giants. Today a hunter could roam through the Matabele land and the Mashona land for a year without finding an elephant. Kaffraria, Natal and Zululand which were inhabited by large elephant herds in the previous century are now forever depopulated. In northern Bechuanaland (in the territory of the Bamangwato) and especially in [270] the Ngami Lake region the brutal business of the ivory hunters flourished. It has been estimated that for the annual world consumption of ivory a total of 100,000 elephants are killed. (74) South Africa has paid its tribute and is now bankrupt

74. H. A. Bryden, Kloof and Karroo,
London, 1889.

in the ivory market. Only a few herds of elephants are kept in the southernmost tip, in game preserves in the Addo-Bush, in the Knysna and Zitzikamma forests.

2. Of the rhinoceros, uncertain whether Rh. simus Burch. or Rh. bicornis (L.), -- (Cape D. rhenoster), there is only a vague remembrance in Namaland, based on the name Ina/ba·b. The name of the plant mentioned on page 201 indicates that the rhinoceros was formerly well-known in Namaland. As late as the second half of the eighteenth century the Rh. bicornis was widespread (cf. p. 168, no. 75) in the Cape colony. The last one is supposed to have been seen in the Addo-Bush in 1849.

3. The true quagga, Equus quagga Gmel. has been completely exterminated. Not even its Hottentot name remains for certain. Only once did a native mention the name /goa·lab when I enquired after the vanished zebra that only has stripes on the front half of its body.

We have only a small amount of usable information about the former extent of the quagga in South Africa. It is certain that it once lived here in great numbers. In the great Karroo and in the plains of the northern Cape colony, in Griqualand and in the Orange Free State, it was usually found in the company of the black wildebeest and the ostrich. The Boers hunted the quagga to feed their Hottentot and Bushmen slaves and thus to save their cattle. They traded their hides

and did not desist until the last quagga had vanished from the earth. That was achieved about 1880. 136

4. The zebra, Igo·reb, is known to the Hottentots in two forms, which we differentiate as Equus Zebra L. (= E. montanus Burch (Cape D. wildepaard) and E. burchelli Gray (Cape D. bonta quagga). The first zebra, which the Hottentot himself designates as the smaller kind living in the mountains, he calls *//kʰao·!goreb, probably from the spurge (cf. p. 150), the juice of which he uses to poison the animals at their watering places. Another name for E. zebra is *//hō·!goreb, i.e. "the one marked black and white." This designation, which would be suitable for all zebras, is only understandable as a diagnostic term taken from its antithesis: [271] the dark striping of E. burchelli, that inhabits the broad plains, is scantier than that on the other kind, the white basic color of the body shines out and is broader and therefore they call this kind *!u·!ri!goreb or the "white zebra." [224]

The remote mountain country in the west of the lower course of the Fish River and the eastern Namib plains in the northern border country are the last refuges of small zebra herds in Great Namaland.

At the end of the 80's the Equus zebra could still be found in the mountainous parts of the eastern Cape colony. In the mountains around Naroekaspoort (74) (70 miles from Willomere) a zebra herd,

74. Ibid.

except for one male zebra, was killed by the Boers and the natives. The lonely animal attached itself to the horses of a farmer that were pastured in the open, followed them on all their wanderings, followed them even into the kraal of the farm. There the zebra starved to death, since it refused to eat even the food that was brought to him from his former pasture grounds. [Picture. Equus burchelli Gray.]

5. The hippopotamus, Hippopotamus amphibius L., (Cape D. Zeekoe), called !kʰaos or *!kʰams, formerly numerous in all the rivers on the Cape, exists today in only a few examples in the lower course of the Orange.

6. The giraffe, Giraffa capensis (Lesson), (Cape D. kameel) called !na/i·b, as older travel reports all relate, could still be found at the turn of the [272] nineteenth century in Great Namaland but is now wiped out there and lives only in folk tales. [Picture. Young male giraffe.]

7. The ostrich, Struthio australis L., (Cape D. voel struis), called /ami·b (Illustration with the folk tales) can be met in all parts of Great

1: Schultze--79A N-5 (1903-1905) 1907 FX13 Hottentot FX13
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Equus burchelli Gray.

1: Schultze--79B N-5 (1903-1905) 1907 FX13 Hottentot FX13
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Young Male Giraffe.

Namaland, and in greatest numbers in the transitional zone of the Namib to the hinterland. I also saw them south of the Orange in the Little Bushman land.

Because of its incomparable sharp sightedness the Hottentot also calls it *//ga/ ba mu's (from *//ga/ ba- to see far in the distance, mu's = eye). The native hunter distinguishes among the females a certain hen that appears alone in a flock, is easier to drive off and has a tendency to grow fat. He gives her the name *sa- bes, distinguishing it from the other female ostriches which he calls */hai-! noro-s, "the one with the fallow back of the head." /naba- b (3. st.) is the young ostrich.

Next to the ostrich the bustards, Eupodotis species, are the stateli-
 est wild birds of Namaland.

8. The lion, Felis leo L., (Cape D. leeuw), called !a-mi, has also disappeared today from the Namib and the bordering territories, its last refuge, and is only found in the northeast, in the transitional zone between Great Namaland and Kalahari.

9. The kudu, Strepsiceros capensis (A. Smith), called !aib begins the series of antelopes. Large, strong and of a wonderful symmetry, the kudu is rightly considered [273] the noblest horned wild animal of the South African savanna, just as in our woods the deer is, which the kudu also resembles in size. It is also like our deer in that only the male has antlers. There is no more beautiful trophy than the horns of an old kudu bull with their bold spirals.

The color of the kudu is a plain yellow grey. About seven narrow whitish stripes cross the back and hind legs. From the root of the tail to the back of the head, a stripe of somewhat longer hair grows along the middle of the back. It is too short to be called a mane. [Picture. Felis leo L.] But a stately beard begins between the lower jaws of the bull, descends down a middle line, decorating the front surface of the darker grey neck and continues sideways above the shoulders as a little neck-mane.

The kudu loves dense undergrowth and is restricted to the interior of Great Namaland in the mountainous parts. It becomes frightened when it observes an enemy. The nearest relative of this marvelous antelope,

[274] 10. the eland, Taurotragus oryx (Pall.), called !kxa/ns is quite the opposite in its outward appearance. The short strong legs with the clumsy hoofs and the awkward burden of the bulky, extended body reveal nothing of the antelope. The long dark mane on the

1: Schultze--80A N-5 (1903-1905) 1907

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Felis leo L.

136 forehead of the bull, the well-developed dewlap and the hump on the back over the shoulders rather give the impression of a gigantic bull. The long thin tail with its (black) tassel is also similar to that of a bull. The antlers of the male consist of strong stubby cones, of the female of less strong, slimmer and somewhat longer cones, which go up at an angle towards the back with a markedly protruding spiral twist in the lower half. Eight to ten thin whitish stripes across the back, which dissolve into the lower parts of the flanks, recall, as does the greyish-yellow of its general coloring, the skin of the kudu. The eland seems to be restricted to the extreme northeast of Namaland and even there is rare.

11. The "gemsbok," Oryx gazella (L.), called /gaeb, is the antelope of the flat semi-desert country. The border territory of the Namib and of the hinterland is at the time of the best pasturage his favorite territory.

The gemsbok has the size of a small deer. Next to the springbok, he has the most varied coloring of the south African antelopes. The basic color of the trunk and neck is a light grey-brown, that becomes whitish on the flanks. A dark-brown stripe goes along its back, continues forwards to the short mane of the back, backwards broadly along the small of the back and into the long bushy tail, that at times seems very dark-black. A similar dark stripe extends from the throat down the middle of the neck and forks between the front legs. The prongs of the fork diverge as broad bands along the stomach and proceed to the hind legs. The white wedge-shaped field, which they have a tendency to bite into, continues to the area of the knee of the hind legs. A broad dark-brown band surrounds the upper leg of the front legs. The white area of the knees and hoofs is interrupted on the front side by a long, dark-brown spot. The black-brown marking of the face resembles a deep and richly cut mask which contrasts sharply with the exposed parts of the face that shine a brilliant white.

Young gemsbok, with little horns about the length of half a finger and bent at the ends, are colored an even light-brown. Only the bushy [275] end of the tail has a lot of black hair. A dark stripe that extends from the front edge of the eye towards the corner of the mouth indicates the black facial coloring of the grown animal (blurred over the forehead and nose). The Hottentot calls an oryx calf up to this stage /kza-reb.

136 325 An older calf, the horn of which is the length of a small arm is called 'aub. Finally the hunter differentiates the grown animal before the first

pairing as *nū//nā/seb, i. e. "black horn," because the horns still have a fresh dark color, not the grey flaky surface of the older animal. The native hunter calls the old gemsbok bull that has been driven from the herd, //naisib. [Picture. Antidorcas euchore Zimmerm. Young springbok ♂]

The horns (in the male stronger and stubbier) are like two strong spears, ringed in the lower half, up to one meter long, which diverge slightly on the flat of the forehead and then rise towards the back at a slant. The Boer name, "gemsbok," which has been accepted everywhere in South Africa, shows, as do so many other names, what a childishly vague memory of his school-days the Boer had when he approached the animal world of his new homeland.

12. The springbok, Antidorcas euchore Zimmerm., called //gū/b, is in build, marking and size the prototype of the delicate light-footed gazelle. It has the size of a large deer. The symmetrical body rests on tall, slender legs; a slim neck bears the little head with the lyre horns. From the lower shoulder a dark-brown, wide band rises up obliquely and continues to the hips and separates sharply the light yellow-brown of the back from the snow white of the belly. In front, the brown of the back continues to the neck and the outer sides of the front legs. In back, it extends along [276] the outer side of the upper hind legs, but leaves the whole front half of them free. The flag is also white. From it a sharply drawn white stripe runs down the middle of the back and ends shortly before the center. The white of the belly also covers the breast and extends as a narrow band down the middle line of the neck to the throat. The face of the springbok is also white. The large dark eyes peer out expressively. A dark-brown band, that unites the upper lip with the front corner of the eye, enlivens the features. A spot over the eye and one on the forehead (at times, especially in young males, extended over the whole bridge of the nose) complete the simple, yet lively marking of the little animal.

The springbok lives on the open plains in herds of many hundreds, sometimes of many thousands. His striking movements have given him his name. The animals jump so high that in spite of the speed of each motion, a measurable length of time passes before they touch the ground again. They seem then, when they have nearly jumped straight up into the air, to stay up there for a second with all four legs. Even more graceful are the motions of these animals when they are suddenly disturbed and are propelled into the air as if by an invisible power, now to the right, now to the left, expressing their excitement in whimsical jumps which go half-forwards and half-sideways. Then they

1: Schultze--82A N-5 (1903-1905) 1907 FX13 Hottentot FX13
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Antidorcas eucore Zimmerm. Young Male
Springbock ♂

set off in full flight. And then sometimes one sees them jump straight up into the air in the middle of the speediest gallop, leaping over the bushes like a kangaroo. The back is bent, the head outstretched and the broadly unfolded flabellum, a bundle of long snow-white erect hair, shines out. 136

The lamb of the springbok is called //gu-nib by the hunter. The old ram who has been pushed out of the herd is called */gu-riseb or */gurimāb, i. e. "he who stands alone." [425]

13. The steinbok, *Raphiceros campestris* (Thunberg), called la-ris, is a small (the size of a fawn) reddish-brown antelope that usually grazes alone. The male is armed with straight, thin, smooth, black, pointed spearlike horns that rise straight up. There is often a striking black spot on the bridge of the nose, that extends halfway up to the eyes. Sometimes one hears a Hottentot, who wishes to make fun of someone's dirty nose, say: "Iaris kxoma ~~fnū~~ ~~fxuisa~~ ū," i. e. "you, with a nose black as that of a steinbok." [522]

[277] 14. The klipspringer (see illustration p. 278) *Oreotragus saltator* (Layard) (Cape D. kliphok), called //kxai-is or //kxai-sis, could be called the chamois of South Africa. It lives in small herds exclusively in clefted mountain country. With certainty and grace it climbs over the cleft rocks. Without taking a running start, only bending the hind knees slightly, he jumps nearly straight up into the air the height of his own body to ascend the steep steps of the weathered gneiss and granite hills. He knows how to judge distances so accurately and so to judge the amount of strength needed, that even after a bold leap he can land with extraordinary certainty on an edge scarcely a handsbreadth wide. The hoofs of the little animal do not extend flat towards the front in a pointed triangle, like those of other antelopes, but are shaped like powerful cylinders that go up at a slant. The animal stands on the outermost tips of these hoofs as though on cothurni. [Picture. *Raphiceros campestris* (Thbg.) Steinbok §]

The skin of the klipspringer is also remarkable. Thick bristly hairs form a soft, elastic cover, which rustles peculiarly when a hand runs over it. The tips of most of the hairs are colored a light yellowish and are set off sharply from the exposed dark parts of the shafts of the hair. The skin, that from a distance seems to be uniformly greyish-brown, proves on closer inspection to be brilliantly variegated. The male has horns like those of the steinbok.

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[p.277]



Raphiceros campestris (Thbg.). Steinbok. ♀

15. The duikerbok, Cephalophus grimmi (Gray), called *tōa·s or 136 ● also */ha/nu·s, lives, as the steinbok does, alone or in pairs. The male, more rarely the female, possesses a short, straight pointed spearhorn. The duikerbok ducks to the ground as soon as he has seen an enemy, and creeps away to a stretch protected by the thick bushes that are its favorite habitat.

[278] The blue wildebeest, Connochaetes taurinus (Burchell), called /gā·ob, resembles and does the closely-related gnu, pictured below, more closely a small calf than an antelope in its outward appearance, especially in the formation of its head, including the antlers. The basic coloring of the body is sometimes a darker, sometimes a lighter grey that changes into a light brownish tone on the small of the back and on the legs. The throat and the side parts of the front of the body are banded across. Sometimes they are broad, brownish-black, connected stripes, sometimes narrow, split stripes. The bushy black tail nearly rests on the ground. A long-haired semi-erect black mane extends from the back of the head to about the middle of the back. Behind the corner of the mouth, a bunch of hair like a beard sprouts forth. Towards the throat it becomes a thin shaggy mane that continues down the middle of the front of the neck for a ways. [Picture. Oreotragus saltator (Layard). Young klipspringer, ♂] I have seen neither the blue wildebeest nor his tracks in Great Namaland, only in Kalahari. If and where it might still be found in Great Namaland today, I cannot tell.

17. The red hartebeest, Bubalis caama (Cuf.), called //kxama·b, concludes the series of antelopes in the hunting districts of Great Namaland. It may [279] still be encountered in the most northern and north eastern border territories (Komas Highlands, Rehoboth and Nosob territory).

Right above the prominent swellings of the eyebrows, the tower-like sub-structure of the antlers rises. In front, it drops in a straight line to the forehead and to the bridge of the nose that is greatly lengthened and slanted steeply. In back, it drops in just such a straight line to the neck which sets stiffly on the shoulders. Thus the back of the animal's head seems to be completely missing. The nape of the neck and the bridge of the nose on the forehead run to a high triangular point. Antlers, that are bent back in a remarkable way, are set in this area. They are massive in the male, slim in the female. [Picture. Connochaetes gnu (Zimmermann). Black wildebeest. A bull.] The animal's back rises gently toward the front and then with a hump over the shoulder area. The overall coloring of the hartebeest is a light

1: Schultze--84A N-5 (1903-1905) 1907 FX13 Hottentot FX13
Nama

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[p.278]



Oreotragus saltator (Layard). Young Kipspringer, ♂.

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[279]



Connochaetes gnu (Zimmermann). Black Wildbeest. A bull.

♥36 chestnut-brown that is darkened on the head and front legs, especially on the outer side. A blackish-brown broad stripe extends over the bridge of the nose to the forehead and two wads of hair stick out obliquely right under the eyes like dark warts the size of a walnut. They seem to be more pronounced in the male than in the female as is the marking of the head.

[533 [280] The tail is insignificant: "!naēsi gye ~~!k~~ !aris ~~!aresa~~ ī" "it
825] has gotten a small tail from its trotting (because of its many motions wiggling its tail)" sang a woman in a hunting song about the hartebeest.

Whereas the antelopes are hunted both for their meat and their skin, the hunting of predatory animals, if one does not consider it as self-defense, is exclusively for the skin.

136 18. Of the predatory animals of Great Namaland, the leopard,
825 Felis pardus L., (Cape D. tijger), called /garu·b, is the most dangerous. [Picture. Bubalis caama (Cuv.) The red hartebeest] The Hottentot distinguishes two kinds of leopards. One of them, called !hurdu·/garu·b, is supposed to have smaller spots and to be generally yellower than the other kind. Since this leopard not only plunders, but kills all the cattle in the kraal that he can get hold of, he is especially feared. He inhabits the flatter lands and the valleys. The second kind, which is less bloodthirsty, darker, and simply called /garu·b, inhabits the mountains.

According to the beliefs of the native hunters, the leopard, unless he is attacked, only springs at people who look at him [281] but leaves unharmed the person who walks by him without glancing sideways. Thus because the leopard does not wish (~~!kxā~~ = to refuse) to be noticed (~~!hau~~) (-he pass. ending, -sa adj. ending, gye auxiliary vb.), the (old) Hottentots call it ~~!hau·/hesagye~~ ~~!kxā·b~~. Apparently also an old hunter's name for the leopard (for I heard it only from old men) is ~~!hūiseb~~.

136 19. The cheetah, Cynaelurus guttatus Herm., (Cape C. luipard), called !a·rub, may be recognized at first glance by his dog-like, slim legs which are made more for running than for jumping and clawing. His skin has small round black spots that are undivided, not grouped together but far apart on a light brownish-yellow background. Its back
[522] seems to be stretched out lengthwise. Occasionally one can hear a Hottentot teasing a tall man with the words: "!arub kxoma gaṣu !gāba ū," i. e. "You with a long back like a cheetah." The animal is a rarity in Namaland, more numerous near Kalahari.

20. The wildcat, Felis caffra Desm., (Cape D. graauwkat), called /hā/a·b, is the commonest of the small cats of Great Namaland. It

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[p.280]



Bubalis caama (Cuv.). The red hartebeest, ♂.

136 resembles our house cat, the most but is stronger and above all has longer legs. The tail is slightly bushy at the end. The basic coloring is grey, mixed with light-brown tones, which are more prominent on the ventral side as far as the throat. The bending side of the front legs and of the hind legs from the heel down is colored more or less black. The stretching sides and outer sides of the front legs are spotted black, those of the hindlegs from the knee down have black crossbands. The rich black banding of the tail is irregular. On the belly as well as on the inside of the legs and in the area of the throat, the brownish-yellow sometimes lightens to a pure white. There are also black horizontal bands on the inside of the front legs.

21. The lynx, *Felis caracal* Guldenst., (Cape D. rooikat), called !hāʔb, is not uncommon in Great Namaland. The tufts of hair on the ears prove the identity of the pelt at first glance. The pelt is nothing special, colored an even brownish-red with little shading. Only on the head, ears and upper lip and on a stripe between the inner corners of the eyes and nose does any black appear.

Whether the other kinds of cats known in South Africa, the so-called tijgerkat, *Felis serval* Erxleben and the little *Felis nigripes* Burchell can [282] be encountered in Great Namaland, I cannot say. The Hottentots with whom I hunted, did not know them. The former is supposed to be not uncommon in northern Namaland (51), the latter

51. K. Dove, Deutsch-Südwestafrika, Ergebnisse einer wissenschaftlichen Reise im südlichen Damaralande, (Ergänzungsheft Nr. 120 zu "Petermanns Mitteilungen," 1896).

could wander over from Kalahari in the east.

[85] 22. A favorite wild animal of the youthful hunter is a Viverridae, the "dwarf," a *Cynictis* species, probably *Cynictis penicillata* (G. Cuv.), (Cape D. geel meerkat), called *!uʔri/ēb, not unlike a weasel in flight. The little animals can often be seen sitting upright in front of the holes of their colony.

A related, but somewhat larger and darker kind, the *!nū/ēb of the Hottentots, seems to belong to the *Herpestes* genus.

Whether the genet, *Genetta*, exists in Great Namaland, as I assume it does, I was not able to discover. It does not seem to be numerous although it is common in Little Namaland, in southern Hereroland and in the Kalahari and therefore could penetrate our territory from the south, the north and the east.

23. The skunk, Zorilla striata (shaw.) (Cape D. stink muishond), a black and white striped Mustelidae is called /ga/mirob, the star, by the Hottentots, following the superstition that the little animal lives in the stars and falls to earth as a shooting star. 136●

Of the martin family there are two representatives to be named that are quite unlike each other in their manner of living. First:

24. The honey badger, Mellivora ratel (Sparrm.), called */ha/rebab or */ha/retsub, a relative of our badger, is outfitted with such thick skin than he can plunder bees' nests unpunished. The white on its back contrasts sharply with the deep brownish-black of the rest of the body. The white cap which covers the skull and which extends to the side to within a finger's breadth of the eye and somewhat further down in the middle of the forehead, continues broadly over the neck and divides into two branches on the shoulders. These extend along the sides, diverging toward the rear and join together again at the root of the tail. In the middle of the back they turn into a variegated shield that appears generally grey.

25. A fish otter, probably belonging to Lutra capensis schrinz, is dependent on the larger pools of the Great Fish River. The Hottentots call them !ho/mi, the same name they give the coastal eared seal.

Of the middle-sized predatory animals, the dog family provides the hunter with the most numerous and best pelts. In the first rank is [224/281] [283] 26. the "caparism" jackal. (See the illustration in the folk tales), Canis mesomelas Schrr., (Cape D. fox), called /gf-rib, also frequently called /gai-rab by old Hottentots, derived from */gai = disorderly singing. The howling jackals circle around a fallen animal or a campground where they smell meat.*

* I cannot agree with the derivation of the word from /gib = odor of fat and from that the designation of the jackal as "the runner after the smell of fat," (57) since the desig-

57. J. G. Kroenlein, Wortschatz der Khoi-Khoi, Berlin, 1889.

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nation for odor of fat is not /gib but /gf/b.
*/gf-ri - to roast a piece of fat on a stick over the flame.

The light golden-brown color of its pelt has also given it the name gold jackal. A broad black stripe mixed with white covers its back like a caparison from the neck to the root of the tail and the upper parts of the flanks. The last two thirds of the long thin brush are black; the throat and a line along the upper lip have a whitish color.

27. One of the prettiest of the South African jackals is the silver jackal, Vulpes chama (A. Smith), called !kzama·b. The round brush, as soft as wool, is larger than the thin body and is just about as long. The body itself is no larger than that of a Cape hare. The back and the nape of the neck, the outside of the upper legs and the root of the tail are silver grey mixed with a fine dark color. The rest of the body is yellow-brown, shaded variously. The broad end of the brush is black and there are black specks on both sides of the first third.

A belief of the hunters is that whoever says the name of the silver jackal while hunting will not catch one. Whoever is forced to speak of it, therefore calls it *xgai-/hetoma·b, i. e. the one (-b) who is not (toma) called (gai) (-he a pass. ending). [224]

28. Like the silver jackal, the Otocyon megalotis (Desmar), (Cape D. A-jackal), called //ā/b, is a small, harmless fellow that never attacks a herd. Its greyish-brown pelt is highly prized. The bushy tail is long, but thin, its tip colored a blackish-brown.

29. In contrast to all its South African relations the Cape hunting dog, Lycan pictus (Temm.), is dangerous in the highest degree. In packs he chases the fleetest game, attacks herds and even men.

The Cape hunting dog does not have the fine pointed nose of the jackal, nor the broad skull of the hyena. One would be more likely to take its head [284] for that of our household dog. Its pelt is checked a blackish-brown, white and a light brownish-yellow. On its neck and behind its shoulders the yellow flows together to form several rather large spots. A dark stripe usually extends along a middle line between the eyebrows over the skull and continues over the nape, becoming narrower. The trunk and neck are very long in proportion to the head. Inevitably we compare the animal to a house dog and therefore the legs seem to us to be relatively long and strong. The thin slightly bushy tail reaches a little farther than the heels.

Because the front black part of the animal's nose stands out from the lighter areas next to it like a "mush beard," the Hottentots call the wild dog *!ga/u·b (from *!ga/u· = to have food sticking around the mouth). The name of the animal may also not be mentioned on the hunt. [224]

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30. That the spotted hyena, the Hyaena crocuta (Erxl.), (Cape D. tijger-wolf), developed from a crossing of the leopard and the hyena, is the firm conviction of the Boers. The dark-brown or black spots, which are scattered over the whole dirty yellow-grey short-haired pelt (except for the head and the lower part of the throat), plus its lust for killing and the force with which the animal attacks cattle, actually remind one of the leopard. Otherwise the animal outwardly as well as by its inner structure is a true hyena.

31. The brown hyena, Hyaena brunnea Thunbg., (Cape D. strand-wolf), differs from the tijgerwolf, in its smaller size, and in the uniformity of its brown to grey coloring which has only a few rather large vague dark spots. In the more beautiful ones the marking is somewhat sharper. Dark bands circle the front and hind legs. The markings are clearer on the former. The pelt has long hair, only the broad skull with the coarse stubby nose is covered with short-haired fur. The head sometimes seems to be peering out of a mane because the fur is especially thick and long behind the pointed ears and jaws.

How the Hottentot differentiates between the two hyenas just described, I was not able to determine with certainty. It is only certain that the general term for hyena, ʔhi-ras, is further specified in *ʔnū/beʔhi-ras and !na/ibeʔhi-rab. I surmise that [285] the first word refers to the darker one (ʔnū/ = black), H. brunnea, the second to the H. crocuta, the markings of which have always reminded the hunter of the giraffe (!na/i-b). Added to that is the constancy of the gender differences of the two names. The former always has a feminine ending, the latter a masculine ending. That would correspond objectively to the differences in the strength and character of the two animals and subjectively to the language sense of the Hottentots. But this is just mentioned as a guess.

32. The aardwolf, Proteles cristatus (Sparrm.), called /giʔb, concludes the series of predatory animals. This small predatory animal, about the size of a fox, resembles outwardly a hyena despite its gracefulness. The skull seems broad, the back slants down and ends in a dark, bushy tail, like that of the strandwolf, but the five toes on the front legs and the peculiarities of its teeth show that the animal is neither hyena nor dog and give it a special place as a representative of its own family.

Four to six black horizontal bands cross the yellow-brown trunk. They run into a black stripe that runs along the middle line of the back, which spreads out into a spot where the back is highest. The

136 legs are likewise striped horizontally. The hair is longer and stiffer on the nape and back where it forms an erectile comb. The forehead and cheeks have short, silver-grey fur which contrasts sharply with the regular black of the rest of the face.

[224
177] 33. The rodents play a subordinate role in relation to the antelopes and the predatory animals. The prejudice which the Hottentot formerly had against the hare, !ō-as, as wild game (66), has now vanished.

66. Th. Hahn, Die Nama-Hottentotten. Ein Beitrag zur südafrikanischen Ethnographie Globus, [Bd.] XII, 1867.

They differentiate three kinds: the largest, Lepus saxatilis Cuv., rock hare, (Cape D. koolhaas), which they call !kʰa-erab, seems to resemble our field hare in coloring, since a light brownish color mixed with black forms the basic color of its fur.

The Cape hare, Lepus capensis L., (Cape D. vlackte haas), called /kʰa-rus, is smaller. The young animals are called */a-bara-ʔa-en because of their reddish translucent ears. A light grey with light yellowish tones and black mixed in form the basic color of its somewhat rough fur.

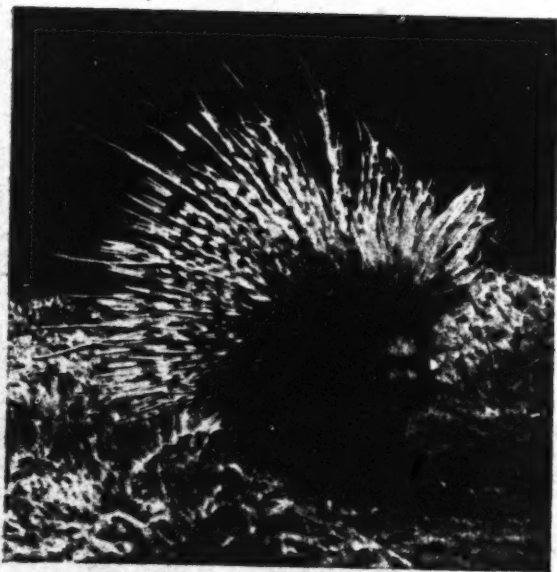
While the rock hare and the Cape hare have a little tail that has black wool above and white wool underneath, the last kind, Lepus crassicaudatus Geoffr., (Cape D. kliphaas), called tso/aru-s or tso/ara-s, is easily recognized [286] by the even brownish-red color of its thick bushy powerful tail.

34. The Cape Jumping Hare, Pedetes caffer (Pallas), called *ʔa-rab is common in the northern border territory. Whoever prefers to ride during the night because of the oppressive heat of the day, often sees this kangaroo-like animal jumping among the savanna bushes in the moonlight. The hind legs of the animal with their greatly lengthened toes have been transformed into powerful jumping legs and only two short little arms hang in front of the body as front legs. The body is a yellowish grey-brown above and white underneath. The long bushy tail is yellowish-brown above and black the last third. [Picture. Hystrix africae australis (Peters.)]

35. The porcupine, Hystrix africae australis (Peters), (Cape D. ijzervark), furnishes a tasty roast. Many kinds of hair cover the body. Flexible strong hairs are only to be found on the limbs and the belly. The quills that are at first weak, stiff and about the length of a finger

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Hystrix africae australis (Peters.).

begin right behind the ears, lie like a dark-brown pelt. Towards the back they change suddenly into pointed white and dark-brown banded quills that are as thick as a pencil. From the nape to the beginning of the quills there is a comb of long flexible bristles that extends down the middle line of the back. When the quills are erect, the animal seems to be twice as tall as it actually is. The rattles at the rear end of the body complete the list of the animal's weapons of terror.

[287] The Hottentot name for the porcupine, !noa·b, is perhaps connected with !noa· = to become grey. Both words correspond in initial tone level and rising word-tone. !noa·b would then mean "grey head," corresponding to the general impression that the nocturnal animal arouses in the dark or the pale light of the stars.

36. The mouse and rat-like rodents are hunted and eaten by adult Bergdamaras as well as by half-grown Hottentots. A study of the skins and skeletons that I collected, will tell us how to classify the rat-sized animal which they call *!haeb. duru·s (3. st.) is a collective name for various mouse species. They distinguish a night mouse, tsū·xudurus or !uru·s, and a kind with a pelt striped lengthwise belonging to Arvicanthis which they call *xgoma·b. [247]

37. The ground squirrel, Xerus capensis Kerr., is called */ga·eta ~~ma~~·b.

38. The smallest hoofed animal, rodent-like in its mannerisms, the rock rabbit, Procavia (Hyrax) capensis (Pall.), (Cape D. dassie), called !au·b, often finds its way into the hunter's pot. The young are called */gi·bigu. The rock rabbit inhabits the clefts in the rocks in great numbers near watering places.

39. In conclusion there are a number of mammals to be mentioned which the Hottentot occasionally traps rather than hunts regularly. He will not let the aardvark, Orycteropus afer (Pall.), called /kzubu·s, escape if he should happen to meet it during the day in an open field. But he must be really suffering from hunger before he will decide to undertake an uncertain difficult ambush at night in front of its hole. (See Kalahari.) 224 136

40. Hunting the elephant shrew, Macroscelides, called baus (in Little Namaland called !kxau·xguib) is an amusement for boys. They differentiate two kinds as far as I could see, justifiably so: a lazy one, which is easily caught, "sleepy mouse," */um·baus, and the "quick mouse," *!kxō·baus, which can be recognized by its bald ears that shine through reddish when it is alive. [857]

41. The baboon, Papio porcarius (Boddaert), (Cape D. baviaan), called /nē·rab, or as the older people call him /nō·rab, is seldom

hunted by the Hottentots. The hunter knows its way of life exactly, distinguishes the outpost of the baboon herd as !kx̣ē.aob, "scout," and the oldest leader as */ga/ro /nē/rab, because it presses toward the water first [288] (!ga/ro) and does not allow any of the other thirsty ones in the herd to drink until it has assured itself of its fill.

The Hottentot considers a small ape that lives in the trees a kind of baboon. It is of the genus Cercopithecus, and is supposed to live in the Orange bush country. They call it */hai/ /nē/rab, i.e. "pale baboon" because of its color, or //o.regyeb, kobold (from //o.re = to cause mischief). [Picture. Papio porcarius (Boddaert). Old male.]

The rage and persistence with which a herd of baboons will attack a leopard, their chief enemy, in a body and tear it apart is known to every native hunter. The herdsman maintain firmly and unanimously that the baboon catches goats and milks them right into its mouth.

2. The Kinds of Hunting

The Hottentot differentiates the short hunt of one day as !aus from an expedition, !ha/mi, that takes several days or weeks.

[289] a) The Hottentot shows his mastery in the stalking [of game]. Only the Bushman can compete with him in the art of tracking wild game (/kx̣uri, //ga+m, u/ru). First he sights the game at great distances and, in spite of all protective coloration which deceives our unpracticed eyes, recognizes it from nearby without error. In reading tracks he has developed the sharpness of his senses and the combining power of his intellect to such an extent that the white man seems a fool beside him. One need only watch a Hottentot once as he follows an antelope which has been shot and run off. Where there are blood and tracks, following the trail is child's play, but where we would stop baffled by a field thickly covered with pebbles, each like the other, he points out one stone in a hundred. Its underside will have been turned ever so slightly towards the sun and he will know that the hoof of the fleeing animal turned it and will then point out the direction with his finger where the search must continue. Then thick thornbushes will blot out the view, the ground is overgrown with tangles hiding all clues. The Hottentot observes the surrounding bushes, suddenly swerves a few steps to one side and brings back a leaf to which a couple of bristles cling. Therefore the animal has brushed by here. He follows the new direction and although hours

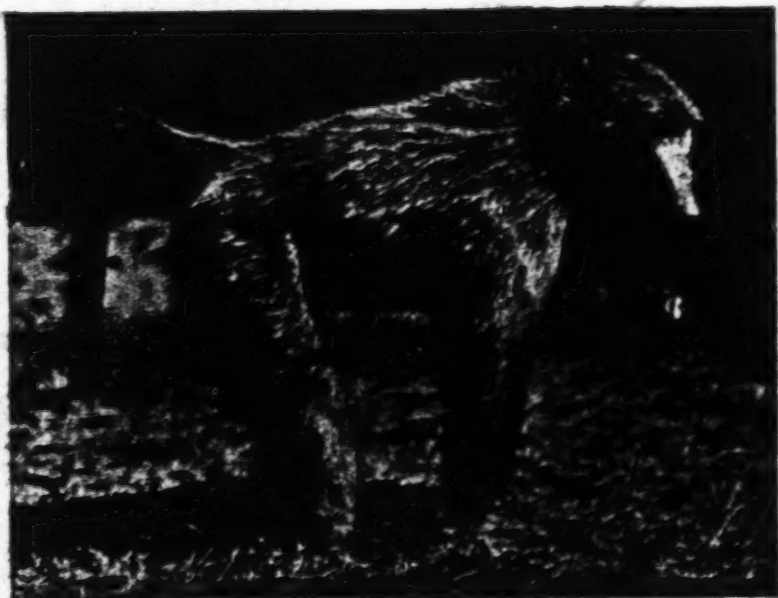
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224

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825

[151]

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[p. 288]



Papio porcarius (Boddaert). Old male.

538 gā·ṭsi/ha·mabes, plays the part of the weaker party. However, it
 825 is superior in battle because of its cleverness. The bird, which appears in the shape of a young lively girl, frees itself and its family from the plague [453] of the python (LX); in another story its attentiveness and guile rescues the girls from murder by the honey badger and his companions, who go dancing with them to the growling reed music of the dorbeetle (LXI).

A simple ruse (similar indeed to the one used by our hedgehog with the hare) aids the tortoise to victory in the race with the ostrich (LXII). Even the giant antelope, the eland, must pay with his life for his arrogance to the tortoise (LXIII). In Folk tale LXIV (as in the Bergdamara adventures) the motif recurs that an important decision or change is placed in the hands of the weak.

In conclusion I offer four tales that, in part crudely naive and in part with a somewhat greater supply of fantasy, are to be interpreted simply as an illustration of certain peculiarities in the external appearance or in the natural history of certain animals (zebra, iguana, baboon, etc.; Folk tales LXV through LXVIII).

● 136
 538 In order to avoid explanations in the translations, I take this opportunity to present a list, briefly and generally in simplified spelling, of the animals that figure in the legends. (Those that are only mentioned incidentally and that do not play an active part themselves are given in parentheses.) In the index at the end of the book one can ascertain in which tales the individual animals appear:

1. Elephas africanus (Blumenb.), the elephant, ʃḳzaob.
2. Giraffa capensis (Lesson), the giraffe, !naʃb.
- (3.) Procavia (Hyrax) capensis (Pall.), the rock-rabbit, !aūb.
4. Taurotragus oryx (Pall.), the eland, !ḳxans.
- (5.) Antidorcas euchores Zimmerm., the springbok, //gūb.
 Folk tale name, ʃn̄aeb.
6. Rhaphiceros campestris (Thunberg), the steinbok, !aris.
- (7.) Ovis aries L. platyura, fat-tailed sheep, gub.
8. Bos taurus L., domestic cow, gomab.
9. Equus zebra L., the zebra, !goreb.
- (10.) Equus caballus L., the horse, hāb.
11. Felis leo L., the lion, ami. Folk tale name: gailgāba, that is, "Big back."
12. Felis pardus L., the leopard, /garub.

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 538

13. Canus mesomelas Schreb., the jackal, /g̃rib. Addressed by the hyena in the tales as "my brother Pale," ti i g̃a /haisetse because of his yellow fur. In the tales the jackal child has the proper name usgyeb.
- [454] 14. Hyaena brunnea Thunberg, the brown hyena, shiras (specifically shūbe shiras), also called "my sister Pointed Run," ti i g̃a /g̃ōbese, by the jackal in the tales because of its posture in running.
15. Vulpes chama (A. Smith), the silver jackal, !kxamab, hunters' name: *g̃aihetoma-b (see p. 283); puzzling folk tale name: *hoagye-i g̃a-hākxoŋ soab, that is "the son (soab) of the sister (i g̃as, kxois, "woman") of all (hoa) [mankind] (gye and hā, verbal particle)."
16. Felis caffra Desm., the wildcat, /hōab.
17. Mellivora ratel (Sparrm), the honey badger, /harebab.
18. Cynictis penicillata (G. Cuv.), [Mierkatze], the "dwarf" /ēb (specifically: *!uri/ēb).
- (19.) Canis familiaris L., the house dog, arib.
20. Hystrix africae-australis (Peters), the porcupine, !noab.
21. Lepus, the hare (see p. 285), loas.
22. Papio porcarius (Boddaert), the baboon, /nērab.
23. Struthio australis L., the ostrich, /amib. Puzzling folk tale names: hubais and hīngatu-bus. Proper name of the ostrich child in the tales: batsibab.
24. Saxicola pileata (Gm.), Kochlar, *g̃ātsin/hamabes.
- (25.) Numida spec., guinea hen, /kxinas.
26. Phoenicopterus, the flamingo, fala-migob (a borrowed name that is also applied, as it seems, to a heron of the interior).
27. Gallus domesticus Boiss., domestic chicken, hūncos (borrowed).
28. Corvus scapulatus Daud., white crow, gorab or !uri gorab.
- [825] 29. Python sebae, python, *gai/aob. The rudiments of the rear extremities of this animal are regarded by the Hottentots as testicles, and hence they call the python also *go/ma-!kxā-raseb, that is "the one with the oxen testicles." I heard old people call the python *!ga-nigyen!gū/b because the animal squeezes its prey to death (!ga/ni) and because his "testicles" are attached in the rear like an apron (!gū/b).

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30. Psammophis notostictus, sand snake, sanugyeō aseb.
31. Varanus spec.¹, iguana, Ino/na b. *//nareb in the Bergdamara dialect.
- [455] 32. Agama spec. (A. atra Daud. or A. planiceps Peters).
Aro lizard, Iaro b.
33. A Lacertidae, related to a Scaptisira, /gabesau b.
34. Pelomedusa glaeata (Schoepff), a tortoise that lives in slimy water and therefore smells bad. The general term for tortoise is //kxuri-b.
35. Batrachia anura of various species, insofar as they can be included within the general term "frog," //gū-ʔsi//gū-ʔbes.
[Fig. --Canis mesomelas Schrtr., the jackal called /gī-rib.]
36. Muscidae of various sorts, insofar as they may be included within the general term "fly," /gīna-s.
37. Orthoptera of various sorts, insofar as they may be included within the general term "grasshopper," *nā/au/ʔ; because of their hopping movements the grasshoppers are compared to a girl who dances (nā/) and rages (*au/ʔ).
- [456] 38. Orthoptera from the families of the Hetrodidae and Stenopelmatidae; to the latter belongs the type of Maxentium called /kxu-nitsi//kxu-meb, that is "glutton belly."
39. Coprophage Lamellicornier from the group Scarabaeinae, types of "dorbeetles." The dorbeetle is called Xau-ti//ga-ʔ mabeb because of its burrowing movements in dung; he nestles up to the dung (Xaub) exactly as one lies down at night (*//ga/ma-) close to the fire. The buzzing sound of his wings is compared in the tales to the bass of the reed pipes. In folk tales the dung beetle appears under the name sanugyeōgaleb.
- (40.) Formicidae, ants, goboru-gu.

¹/_A [German "der Iguana", In English more commonly called
Monitor. - Analyse]

1: Schultze--248A N-5 (1903-1905) 1907 FX13 Hottentot FX13
Nama

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Canis mesomelas Schtr., the jackal called /gɪ·rɪb/.

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1: Schultze--250A N-5 (1903-1905) 1907

FX13 Hottentot FX13
Nama

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Maxentius Stal spec., aff. pinguis Wlk. ♀

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Fig. -- Bitis cornuta L.

1: Schultze--282A N-5 (1903-1905) 1907 FX13 Hottentot FX13
Nama

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[p499]



Felis leo L. ♂

1: Schultze--283A N-5 (1903-1905) 1907 FX13 Hottentot FX13
Nama

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[p.501]



Struthio australis L. ♀

1: Schultze--285A N-5 (1903-1905) 1907 FX13 Hottentot FX13
Nama

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[p.504]



Papio procarius (Boddaert.) an old male.

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Ip.507



/gabestau-b (3. st.)

A member of the division Lacertilia that is called V and is related to the group Scapteira. 1 6/10 natural size. (This size seems improbable; it might be a misprint for "1/6 natural size!" -- Translator's note.)

1: Schultze--~~289A~~ N-5 (1903-1905) 1907 FX13 Hottentot FX13
Nama

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Struthio australis L. ♂

1: Schultze--2904 N-5 (1903-1905) 1907 FX13 Hottentot FX13
Nama

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Raphiceros campestris (Thunberg). Steenbok ♀

1: Schultze--299A N-5 (1903-1905) 1907 FX13 Hottentot FX13
Nama

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[p.524]



Methone andersoni Stal, (Oedipopide) by Kubub.
Natural size.

1: Schultze--302A N-5 (1903-1905) 1907 FX13 Hottentot FX13
Nama

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[A527]



A ~~Sanagye-gaieb~~ Beetle.
(See page 456, number 39.)

1: Schultze--310A

N-5 (1903-1905) 1907 FX13 Hottentot FX13

Nama

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Papio procarius (Boddaert) from
the rear, demonstrating the posterior
welts.

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H
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[312]
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a most desolate appearance. Verdure is entirely wanting, the numerous gullies are empty, and the low ranges of ironstone koppies which dot the plains seem to reflect the heat as from a mirror. The vegetation is composed very largely of drought-resisting thorn bushes, succulents, bulbous and tuberous plants. Grasses appear only in exceptionally wet years, while trees are usually absent, except along the dry river-courses and on the mountain slopes in the east, where the rainfall is highest. Till the early years of the nineteenth century the Great Karroo was regarded as a desert unfit for man or beast; since then well-sinking and donkey transport have bettered the conditions, and the region has gradually become occupied.

FAUNA

H
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The great variety of habitat provided by the country taken as a whole has naturally favoured the development of a varied and abundant fauna.¹ South Africa has long been renowned for the wealth of its larger forms of animal life, although with the advance of European settlement and colonization the numbers have been rapidly reduced, particularly of certain classes of big game. The native inhabitants had certainly done something to reduce the numbers and affect the distribution of the fauna, but a balance had been reached which still left the country richly stocked. The Cape was full of game when the first European settlers established themselves there 250 years ago, and in their gradual spread inland the white men found the same abundance of fine forms of animal life in each new tract of country that they entered. A few decades were enough to convert each newly-opened district from a hunter's paradise into a stock-farming country, and the increase of veld-burning carried the destruction into other zones of life. But over large parts of South Africa the face of the country itself has been little changed on the whole, and a good deal of the original fauna has survived, even on much of the enclosed land.

The mammalian fauna is, or rather was, characterized by the great abundance and variety of antelopes, the presence of such remarkable "living fossils" as the elephant, giraffe, rhinoceros, hippopotamus, and aardvark, as well as of the buffalo, zebra, and quagga, and the abundance of carnivora, large and small. During the eighteenth

¹ An excellent short account is given by Dr. E. L. Gill, "Descriptive Sketch of the Fauna of South Africa," *Official Year Book of the Union*, No. 9, pp. 31-41. Cf. also Passarge, *op. cit.*, pp. 78-86.

FAUNA

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and nineteenth centuries many of the larger game animals were driven out of the more southern regions, the quagga being totally exterminated, but most of them are still found in the Kalahari and northern parts of South-West Africa, as well as in the eastern lowlands (from Zululand to the Zambesi delta). H
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The kudu is the most common of the larger antelopes, the duiker and steenbok among the smaller antelopes still numerous over the whole country, while in the north and east herds of hartebeest, blue wildebeest, gemsbok, and eland are also found in fair numbers. Among the better-known antelopes peculiar to South Africa are the bontebok and the black wildebeest, both now surviving only in a state of semi-captivity on farms, and the springbok, still fairly plentiful in some districts and kept in small herds on many farms. It formerly inhabited in immense numbers the open treeless plains of all South Africa, and is celebrated for the vast "treks" in which it travelled in search of food or water. Small herds of elephant survive in a few strongholds to the east and south, and in parts of the Northern Kalahari. The zebra, giraffe, buffalo, and rhinoceros are still found in the northern parts of South-West Africa and the Kalahari, as well as in the eastern lowlands, while the hippopotamus, formerly abundant in every river of the Cape, is now confined to the neighbourhood of the Orange River, and also occurs in the rivers of the Kalahari and the Low Veld of the east. Of carnivorous animals the leopard is still common in many mountainous regions over the whole country, as are also the wild cat, red lynx, spotted hyena, and jackal, but the lion, once so plentiful throughout the Cape Province, is now apparently extinct south of the Vaal and Orange Rivers. Baboons are numerous in many mountainous districts, and the forests, even along the south coast, still shelter monkeys.

Birds especially prominent in South Africa include the starlings, the weaver-birds, the larks, the sunbirds, the shrikes, bulbuls, and swallows. Of game birds the most common are the ostrich, still existing in the wild state in various unenclosed parts of the country, though now chiefly known as a domesticated bird; the bustards (korhaans and paaus), the francolins or African partridges, guinea-fowl, sand grouse, quail, and snipe, as well as numerous varieties of waterfowl. The secretary bird (*Serpentarius*), a long-legged terrestrial relative of the hawks and eagles, is protected on the strength of its reputation as a snake killer. A tropical element, comprising such birds as parrots, louries, hornbills, rollers, and glossy starlings, penetrates

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into Damaraland on the west, and on the east by way of the Transvaal bushveld and Natal to the south coast regions of Knysna and George. From the south it is naturally only sea birds that can be contributed to the fauna; the petrel family forms the characteristic element from this quarter, comprising a number of small petrels and whale birds, the "Cape pigeon" and "Cape hen", shearwaters and several albatrosses. The jackass penguin, breeding in immense numbers on the small islands off the south and west coasts, represents a truly antarctic contribution.

The reptilian fauna is particularly abundant, lizards and snakes especially being very numerous in many parts of the country. Of the latter, the cobra (genus *Naia*), the puffadder (*Bitis arietans*), and the ringhals (*Serpodon haemachates*) are among the more formidable poisonous representatives; the mamba (*Dendrasdis angusticeps*), most deadly of all, is found principally in the eastern parts of the country. The crocodile is extinct in the Cape Province and the Orange Free State, but is still found in the rivers of the eastern lowlands and the Northern Kalahari. The Arachidna are notable for the abundance of scorpions, and among the spiders for the large number of ground-dwelling forms living in burrows, with or without trapdoors, beneath stones, or as free-living hunting forms.

The insect fauna as a whole presents an extraordinarily large number of species, many of them extremely abundant. Locusts are conspicuous among the common plagues of the country, and from time to time issue in devastating swarms from their breeding grounds in the Kalahari and other more or less inaccessible dry regions. Bees, wasps, and ants are very richly represented; ants' eggs and the honey of wild bees provide the Bushmen with an important element of their diet. Mosquitoes and horse-flies are rarely very troublesome except in the moister parts of the country; the anophelene mosquito conveys malaria in the northern parts of South-West Africa and the Kalahari, as well as in the Low Veld of the east, while the tsetse fly (*Glossina*) carries cattle disease (nagana) in the Ngami country and a few localities to the east, but no case of sleeping-sickness has been known to occur. The widely-distributed termites are often destructive, but provide many animals and birds with their chief subsistence. Butterflies and moths, beetles and bugs all appear in numerous varieties, and one species of beetle, *Cladocera nigro-ornata*, forms the most potent ingredient in the arrow-poison of the Kalahari Bushmen.

not used in this process is that of the puff adder, because his father told him that it rots the flesh.

The treatment that this man adopts for bites of the cobra is incisions over the bite; he then places a piece of venom in his mouth and proceeds to suck the wound. He also gives the patient a small dose of prepared venom to be swallowed, which he says, congeals the poison inside so that he vomits it out. Puff adder bites he treats similarly.

Jacob catches snakes by breaking their backs and so paralysing them; they must not be killed. The head is fixed with a forked stick, after which the snake may be picked up by the back of its neck. The sacs of poison are carefully dissected out, each intact with its fang, from beneath the eyes. The sacs are ligatured at the base of the fangs to prevent the escape of venom. They are then hung up to dry. They are not mixed. Jacob uses no head cloth, and therefore scrapes the greasy, sweated band of his old hat and mixes this with water to give to the patient. This internal dose is given only when it is seen that the poison "has got to the heart," and is given, as is the venom, to congeal the injected venom. Either the sweat or the venom will do, both have the same action. He also uses Bo Meester, and gives this drug internally for as long as the patient may be ill, and applies Black Klipsweet or Dassiepis plasters externally. One other old snake catcher gave me exactly the same information.

The gecko lizard, the D/ung D/ung, is by all, white and black alike, credited with being deadly poisonous. The only poisonous lizard has its habitat in Mexico; but Jacob dissects out some gland and uses it in the same manner as the venom sac of the snake.

Another Poison Doctor explained his immunity thus; after eating poison the snakes smell the man, do not like him, and run away from him, therefore, spittle and sweat are curative. (The Dutch used to give high prices for pieces of Poison Doctor head cloths.) Here, once again, the sympathy becomes apparent.

In a country that Nature has cursed with multitudes of snakes, spiders, and scorpions, cures and antidotes for their bites and stings naturally form a large section of the folk medicine. Kabroo, a potato-like root, sweet to taste, is used raw, in slices, applied wet to the wound to draw out the poison. Yellow Kafir wood, ground, is used as a poultice. This appears to have a certain caustic action. The crushed head of the snake may be applied as a poultice to snake bite. Bo Meester may be rubbed into scarifications over the bites. Powdered spider or tarantula is used as a poultice over their bites. In the case of scorpion sting the particular animal if possible is captured, its tail pulled off, also its nippers, the body is ground and applied as a paste. In each case of scorpion sting that the writer has treated, the body of the scorpion always accompanied the

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8: Dapper Q-4 (no date) 1933

FX13 Hottentot FX13
Cape Hottentot

KAFFRARIA OR LAND OF THE HOTTENTOTS

19

on the island, he and another Hottentot²³⁾ managed to make land in a leaky fishing-skiff provided with two oars, the wind favouring them. They found the settlements of their fellow Gorachouquas and Goringhaiquas again erected in the vicinity. The flight of these two savages was reported to Governor Riebeeck after a few days by a certain free burgher of Saldanha Bay,²⁴⁾ who came sailing from there. On the following day the Governor sent out six Dutchmen to go seeking along the shore until they came across the skiff or any sign of it. The men set out, with provisions of food for four or five days, and on the next day, just about eleven miles from the Fort, found the skiff lying high and dry in a pretty little sand bay, with the oars by it and some grass inside, as if someone had slept there at night. But they saw no people thereabouts, nor any Hottentots on the whole trip, although rhinoceros, elephants and other wild beasts were observed often enough. After a trip of four days, these six men at last came back to the Fort, without having achieved their object, and told the Governor of their adventure.²⁵⁾

At long last, in the month of February, 1660, the aforesaid Harry or Kamcemoea came to the Fort with the Chief Chore, accompanied by thirteen fat cattle and more than a hundred other savages, all unarmed.²⁶⁾ They entreated that we should be willing to accept these fat cattle as a token of friendship, and that they should again be permitted to visit us as before. In addition they agreed to let us plough the land within three hours' journey of the Fort with corn and other seed, but on condition that we did not plough up any more land than was already under cultivation. As soon as this compact had been concluded on both sides by word of mouth, the Hottentots were regaled in the Fort with bread, tobacco and brandy, from which they made themselves dead drunk. The others, as soon as they learned that the dispute was settled, also came running

²³⁾ This man was a Gorachhouqua spy captured July 12, 1659, and used without success to guide Harry and the Dutch to the camping-places of his people. He was sent to Robben Island on Oct. 3, where Harry followed him in Oct. 20 (D. *ut cit.*).

²⁴⁾ D., Dec. 8, 1659. The escape had taken place "8 or 10 days" before.

²⁵⁾ Cf. D., Dec. 9-13, 1659.

²⁶⁾ Dapper's information is incorrect. The first pact was concluded on April 5-6 with the Capemen and their chief Gogosoa (D., *ut cit.*). Chore, "with a retinue of about 100 men, among them the eldest and principal of the tribe, bringing with them 13 head of cattle fairly old and young," did not come to sue for peace until a month later (D., May 5, 1660).

On the 15th, with a gentle N.W. wind blowing, when we were rejoicing in the distant prospect of the long-desired Cape of Good Hope, we sailed past another island, Robben Island, distant according to the maps five miles from our fort, eight miles from Dassen Island, and about fifteen from Saldanha Bay. It is not made conspicuous by any lofty mountain peak; as a matter of fact only a low hill rises there. It is used as a prison for convicts employed in gathering shells to be burned for the lime for the new fort.* Here are many chameleons, smaller than the Indian variety, insects of every sort, small reptiles, various snakes, poisonous spiders as big as a man's fist, etc. [33]

At four in the afternoon Table Bay received us, having lost abundance of men in this voyage, and on the next day the table of the Governor, an incomparable man.²⁾ We were summoned to his board by the sound of the bugle; and while rowing ashore our long-boat was hindered in reaching the sandy beach of Africa by a species of very large seaweed, commonly called *drombassen*. The whole of our smaller ship's boat would scarcely have sufficed to carry one plant. This seaweed is a sign to those approaching the Cape of Good Hope of their speedy arrival, as is also the presence of a species of sea-bird, an albatross of a whitish colour and small size. The place delighted us by its strangeness, the interest of the observer being excited to a livelier attention by the fact that the circumstances of the inhabitants of this part are still unknown to writers. For they say (and this is all they tell us) that a certain emperor spread his sway from the Mountains of the Moon to the Cape of Good Hope or the extremities of Africa; that his realm was divided into four kingdoms, and called Monomotapae.³⁾ [36] 500 [137] [136]

* The present castle, founded 1666, occupied 1674 (the year after Ten Rhyne's visit), and finished 1676. (B.F.)

²⁾ The Governor at this time was Isbrand Goske (1672-76), the first to bear the title Governor in place of Commander. He had been sent out specially to prepare the Cape for defence in the event of its being attacked by the English or French, with whom the Netherlands were then at war, and the building of the castle was completed during his tenure of office.

³⁾ Ten Rhyne hardly does justice to Hondius, Dapper and other earlier Dutch writers whose accounts of the Hottentots should have been familiar to him. Legends of Monomotapa and the vast wealth of this Empire were still current in his time, but of the Cape itself a good deal of accurate information was already available in published works.

Bakkeley Plaats.⁴⁾ There is also another plain, called by our countrymen De Buffelsjacht,⁵⁾ perched on a mountain difficult of access, beyond which it is not yet known whether the country is flat or mountainous. But who could measure all those mountain heights, winding hills, and spreading plains? 133

Of the mountains near the Fort the loftiest is called Table Mountain, from its flat top, and from its height it is a beacon for those seeking this harbour. From base to summit it is said to measure five *leucæ*.^{*} And certain it is that it was after a very stiff climb and the loss of much sweat that I succeeded in scaling it. There were myriads of different plants; and at the foot of the mountain, which is cleft through the middle, I passed through a marshy grove of palmitides, with sharply reticulated roots. Once we met a terrifying troop of yelling baboons; and during our descent in the evening saw many "meteors." Sparks were dancing in every direction in the air, and the first sight of them terrified my companions, who supposed that these must be the blazing eyes of lions, noted here for their daring. But when I tried to catch them in my hand the sparks fled; and I learned subsequently that these "meteors" resemble in their marshy juice, which glows in the darkness, the meteor bolts. Another mountain which formerly gave its name to the place is called Lion Mountain, not from the roaring of the savage winds, but from its natural shape. On its summit are always posted two look-outs to give warning of the approach of ships. [37]
[36]

The sheer snowy mountains with which all this region is hemmed in are naturally associated with rivers as a body is with its shadow. The most important are: 1. Bot river, 2. Palmiet river (?), 3. Berg river, which springs more obviously than the others from the mountains, 4. River Sonder End, rising among the mountains but of extent unknown as yet, 5. Breede river, a shallow stream, very

⁴⁾ Bakkeley Plaats is near the village of Vredendal, west of Van Rhyndorp. The name is derived from the Malay *berkeleht*, to fight, and refers to a skirmish which took place here in May, 1668, between the Dutch stationed at Saldanha Bay and some Namaqua who had stolen some cattle and sheep from them and from other Hottentots. (D. May 17, 1668; *Godée-Molsbergen, Reizen in Zuid-Afrika*, 1, 134).

⁵⁾ Probably the Buffelsjagt R. in the district of Swellendam, to which cattle-trading expeditions were often sent from Hottentots Holland. The country beyond was not fully known until after Schryver's journey of 1699.

^{*} See note on opposite page. The height of Table Mountain is 2,822 feet, so that Ten Rhyne's estimate is somewhat generous.

It is white even in its natural deposit, although black specimens are also found. But when the dog days scorch it with their tremendous heat, of its own accord it splits and shows a gleaming white surface. It surpasses the common salt of our country somewhat in pungency of taste, and forms a most agreeable accompaniment of food. Can this be the reason why (as already known in Aristotle's time) if one digs near the sea in Africa, one first finds sweet water, then, after a little, salt?

CHAP. II.

Animals.

This mountainous desert is a fitter habitation for wild beasts than for men; for here are to be found lions, the cruel enemies of flocks and herds, elephants, rhinoceroses, tigers or rather panthers, wolves, elks, hippopotamuses, wild horses, buffaloes, boars, mountain-bred snakes (?), baboons, porcupines, hedge-hogs, polecats (?), lynxes, stags, rabbits, badgers, otters, hares, zebras of a most beautiful colouring, as if a furrier had inserted white stripes at regular intervals in a black hide, goats, mountain goats, ibexes, both spotted and ash-coloured, springboks, wild cats, shaped like tigers and grey, a species of fox which the Dutch call jekbais, and more rarely *Tamandua Guana*(?), differing only in size from the Brazilian variety. In truth an enormous supply of animals must harbour here, for in a brief space of time a few hunters brought the governor several thousands of pounds weight of animals they had taken, chiefly hippopotamuses, elks, ibexes, and similar creatures. Hence we can see into how serious an error Aristotle fell when he says that in Africa (where there is no lack of that beast whose teeth are precious at its death) the boar, the stag, and the wild goat are not to be found.

^{*)} *Profigiosae magnitudinis beluae, a me non semel conspicuae, quas saepe cum vilis periculo venarum eunt nostrates: videatur Phil. lib. 8. cap. 35 & c. 36.* (Beasts of enormous size seen more than once by me. Our countrymen often go to hunt them at the peril of their lives. See *Phil.*, Natural History, bk. 8, chap. 35 and 36.)

^{?)} Quae *Marcgravius* describit sub nomine *Mimen detters*. *Hist. quadrup. lib. 2. cap. 4.* (Described by *Marcgravius* under the name *Mimen*. *History of Quadrupeds*, bk. 2, chap. 4.)

^{*)} de *Hist. anim.* lib. 8 cap. 22.

^{*)} *Petron.* in *satyr.* (The reference again is to *Petronius Satyr.* §113, lines 15, 16. *Equi* seems to be corrupt. The passage in *Petronius* concerns the elephant. R.F.)

CHAP. III.

Birds.

Among the birds, which are plentiful enough and of varied colours, are ostriches, peacocks, cranes, black storks, herons, geese, pelicans, ducks, penelopes, querqueduals, gannets, divers, urinatrices, coots, boeas, penguins, partridges, red and ash-coloured pheasants, vanelli, speckers, the lesser gallinago, screech-owls, myriads of cephæ, martins, swallows of various hue, colybrides, or suckers of a certain verticillated plant, and a certain kind of pelican called by the French *Flammaris*, and by our countrymen, who learned the name from the Portuguese, *Flemishers*, with upstanding variegated plumage. 136

CHAP. IV.

Fish.

Here the sea and also the rivers yield their own wild creatures, sea-monsters, sea-rabbits, guapervas of Brazil, whales, small sharks, tunnies (the glory of the table), salmon, rays, mullets, mussels, gilt-bream, decumanæ, eels, two species of carp (the inhabitants call them Hottentot fish, since the Hottentots delight in them, because they are scaly, and haunt the rocks, and have a tasty flesh). Another large table fish is the sternebrae. Then there is a species of dog-fish, which the Portuguese call *Cassaco*. Also oysters, lobsters, crabs, the true torpedo, turbot, cuttlefish, and viriform shells, among which is the *Parco*, called by Pliny the sailing nautilus. But to enumerate all is impossible within the narrow limits I have set myself; I shall merely add one to conclude. When I was skirting the edge of a gently curving shore beaten by quiet waves in order to prosecute my researches into the offspring which the sea casts forth from her womb, I discovered certain animalcula firmly attached to the rocks, which by the innumerable living fibres they thrust out present a ray hue, and are in consequence popularly known among the Dutch as rock-roses. 162

speckled, and of which he enumerates nine species, while I from my own observations have noted but three, described elsewhere.)

*) *vid. eundem p.m. 122.*

*) *Balaenæ quadam species hic frequens Belgice wint-kapers & vin-vlamen. (A certain species of whale common here, called by the Dutch wint-kapers and vin-vlamen.)*

*) *vide Marggus. lib. 4. c. 12.*

*) Pliny, *Nat. Hist.*, lib. 41.1. (R.F.)

CHAP. V.

Insects and Poisonous Creatures.

Neither of the poisonous creatures nor of the insects could there be given any complete enumeration here. Among the latter are common various beetles, butterflies, mordellae, glow-worms, *locusts of different sorts*, many weevils, millipede spiders of various colours, comparable in size to a man's fist, and several kinds of ant, which bury themselves in great heaps of food in the neighbouring mountains. The Treasurer asserted that these ant-heaps could be sparingly substituted for lime in the building of the new fort. I broke some open and disclosed myriads of ants swarming within.

Among the poisonous creatures snakes are common, differing in shape, size and habitat. There are vipers twice as big as I have found in France, salamanders, scorpions, scolopendrae, lizards, toads. Of the origin of these I discoursed with the Governor, a man of incomparable experience; I expressed surprise at the appearance of the toads in that place, which were three times the size of our native ones and had very long hind legs like (?) , with which they swept the ground. "You are surprised at this," said he in reply, forthwith ordering some specimens of toad-shaped fish of the genus *Holothuria* (water-polypes), with feet below their bellies, to be brought. "Look, these are the source from which our toads are born." And this I myself afterwards observed, to wit, a toad produced from this fish. I also disembowelled a fish of this sort in the presence of the Governor and found all the internal organs, especially the lungs with which they are generously supplied, to be like those of toads or frogs.

Other classes of living things I either did not see at all, or, if seen, in the very short time of my sojourn there, could not examine minutely. But I am inclined to adopt the opinion of the Stagirite, that in Asia the most savage, in Europe the strongest, in Africa the most various wild animals are brought forth. Hence has sprung the saying: Africa always produces something new. Aristotle gives as the reason that the lack of water gathers together different animals to relieve their thirst with the result that they copulate promiscuously. But this must be understood of the deserts of Africa, which otherwise is watered by many great rivers.

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squammosa, quā impense delectantur. Tabacum infantes aequē ac senes, feminae ac maris, in maximis delictis habent, ita ut quamvis suis invidiosi, fumantem tamen fistulam sociis per vices distribuunt. Crescit in his oris *) *Ari Africani* radix, tanta pollens acrimonia, ut linguam non modo adurat, sed & acerrime lancinet, venenis merito accensenda. Hanc *Hottentotti* coquendo mitigant (igne nocivum expellente sulfur, volatilē simul & acrem ligante salem) ut esui apta sit haec radix, *) *erinaeorum* (qui hic mirae effigies sunt.) dapes. Nonedulibus, veluti arefactis & pulverulentis pellibus (quels pro calcels saepe diu fuere uul) quin & excrementis, modo non solis, vescuntur incompressi omnes ad unum, etiam non excluso *Rege*, vilissima mendicabula, ut singuli fert *Nigrifas* sunt.

CAP. XVII.

De Modo Bellandi.

Nihil est hac plaga infestius, ubi tempestatibus atrox coelum, saxelque montes incolarum ingenilis congenere sunt; unde asperae & in flagitia astutae mentes cum molli nostratium indole haud conveniunt, bellum levissima de causa suscipientes. Arma illis sunt praeter coriaceam lacernam (qua clypei loco utuntur) arcus & tela: Haec vel *) *profectoris*, quels adeo accurate ad scopum collineare sciunt, ut ad quadraginta passuum distantiam, propositum offendant punctum, quosque prono jacent brachio; vel *jaculatoris*, quibus bipennibus magno nisu ad artem vibratis, hostes transverberant. Ea plerumque impuro veneno hunc in modum inficiunt: viperam aliudve infestam

*) Alibi a me delineati. (Illustrated by me elsewhere.)

*) Quorum figuras alibi quoque dedi. (I have given drawings of these elsewhere.)

*) Vulgo *Asagayen*.

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**) The use of poisoned weapons is more generally associated with the Bushmen, but there is sufficient evidence that the Hottentots also knew and practiced it. Ten Rhyne's description of how the snake poison is applied need not be taken at its face value. A more reliable account is given in the descriptive notes to the plates accompanying the journal of van der Stief's journey to the Koperberg (1688-9). On one of the plates is figured a snake, called *Asagayen* by the Hottentots (and rather doubtfully, and inaccurately, identified by Waterhouse as the mamba). The accompanying note says: "The natives set large traps for this snake and poison their arrows and assegais with its powerful venom. They first remove the skin from the upper jaw-bone, and disclose beneath it a small oblong bladder, full of little glands.... They

Infants and old persons, women and men are equally
addicted to tobacco: and jealous though they are of what
is their own, yet among companions they hand a lighted
pipe around in turns. There grows in these shores a root
of the African Arum, with such a pungent taste that it
not only burns the tongue but sharply cuts it. It deserves
to be classed among the poisons. The Hottentots mitigate
the pungency by cooking (the fire expels the hurtful
sulphur, and at the same time binds the volatile and biting
salt) to make the plant fit for food; and it is a feast for
hedge-hogs, which are here of a remarkable appearance.
They also feed on quite inedible things, like dried and
dusty skins (often such as have been long in use as shoes),
and even on excrementa, but always mixed with other
things; for to a man they are without delicacy or niceness,
not even excluding the king, miserable beggarly wretches,
like almost all negroes.

CHAP. XVII.

Their Mode of War.

Nothing could be more unfriendly than this region, where
the savage storms and stony mountains are matched by
the character of the inhabitants. Their rough and cunning
disposition sorts ill with the easy temper of our countrymen,
and they resort to war upon the slightest cause. Their
weapons are, in addition to a skin cloak which they use
instead of a shield, the bow and javelins. These are either
projectiles (i.e. hurled straight at the mark), commonly
called *assepis*, which they can direct so accurately at a
mark that they can hit a fixed point at a distance of forty
paces, and which they fling with a downward motion of
the arm; or else designed for carrying to a distance, in
which case they are balanced by two wings, and being skill-
fully launched with great force fly and transfix the enemy.
They usually imbue these weapons with poison in the
following way: they irritate a viper or other noxious snake,
then into the mouth of the angry creature they repeatedly
plunge the tip of the weapon. They bind the creature to
prevent the weapon from falling out, they enrage it to
increase the strength of the poison, and then chop its
head off.⁴¹¹ It is from maxillary glands that vipers spit

First tie up the above-mentioned bladder near to the tooth with a fine
thread, in order to prevent the venom from escaping. Then when
the bladder is dry they divide and smear the desired weapon
with it (Wainhouse, *Steen v. d. Sta's Journal*, 164-51. Cf. also
Schopere, op. cit., 130 ff.

with a prominent navel or a prominent nose. If there be one lame among them, or one maimed in hand, arm, eye, or any other member, that defect he owes to enemy, wild beast, or accident, not to his mother; for the women there, in comparison with other lands, are less subject to disturbance and weakness of the mind, they have healthy bodies, beautifully proportioned limbs and sturdy frames, and they bear splendid children whose vigour only age can weaken and destroy.

Our countrymen went on a trading expedition some distance from this place and encountered a people whose wits were not all of wood; for when our men, who as it happened were nicely groomed, and had either shaved or not yet come to grow a beard, were spreading out their wares for sale and inviting purchasers, this people cast a humorous scoff at them, that they should summon their husbands if they wished to come to terms, for they never did business with women. This from savages!⁴)

Their hearing is quick, their sense of smell acute, and their sight, as I have said, so keen that when in quest of honey they perform the amazing feat of following with their eyes the tiny bee in its flight to the honeycomb whether it be lodged in a lofty rock or hollow tree or hidden cave. And if perchance, owing to the intervention of thicket, wood, river or other obstacle or hindrance, the bee should elude the sight of the pursuer, then he checks his course, turns his face towards the west, and diligently watches for another bee winging its way on the track of the former; this then serves him for a guide and brings him to the desired prize⁵).

Moreover I have observed that our Africans are led to the bee's nest by the song and flight of a certain little bird that is very fond of honey⁶). It is said that other birds give

search of honey," he says, "the man will follow the bee as far as he can with his eyes, say at least 15 or 18 yards; in that line of flight he will search for a dropping of the bee and will find it; he will then in the next line of 15 or 18 yards search for another dropping, and the line of these two droppings will indicate the course the bee took to the nest . . . There is a Hottentot at Warmbad who is a great expert in brewing honey beer . . . This fellow told me himself in this manner of finding the honey by following up the droppings of the bees" (Trans. S. Afr. Philos. Soc., 1884, Min. Proc. p. xvii).

⁴) Popularly known in S. Africa as the "honey guide" (*Indicator spp.*). The natives of Bechuanaland and elsewhere still obtain honey through the agency of this bird, as described by G., and are always careful to leave a little behind in payment.

A vicious, criminal person who is judged worthy of the extreme penalty is exposed to danger like a straw man, that is to say, he is well trussed up with skins, provided with a spear, and hung to a man-eating, cattle-raiding lion, to curb his rascalities. All then rush up to his support, and should he prove the victor they hail him with shouts of triumph; his brilliant exploit restores him to his former rights; the action of the law is suspended, the charge is set aside, and all congratulate him on being now cleaner than a salt-cellar and quite freed, in universal popular opinion, of the stain on his character⁷⁰). And not without reason, for a lion who has once tasted human flesh prefers it to all other as being the most delicate.

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Lions also set a special value on dog-flesh. One day a lion ate a dog. The head of the animal was thrown near by in front of a trap. Next day when the lion came back for a renewal of the feast he was observed to prefer the dog's head to a living wether tethered two paces off to a shrub. As the lion went past the wether without touching it, he was pierced by bullets and fell. Lions are so fertile that they would lay the whole countryside waste were they not kept down in various ways. Often when a lion goes off hunting for itself or its young, on its return it finds the lair empty of cubs, which through natural ferocity or the pangs of hunger stray too far from their den and become a prey to men. Or they perish of hunger, if the lioness or lion is killed by the weapons of our men or in a trap. Also when a lioness is in heat the lions follow in troops, and their sexual rage is such that they tear one another to pieces with tooth and claw.

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When a lion comes back from a kill it disburdens its belly of its load of flesh by vomiting it up before the cubs, and the lioness likewise feeds them on undigested tasty morsels as well as offering them her dugs.

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A man who kills or captures any sort of lion is paid by officials from the public treasury a sum of sixteen and two-thirds silver nummi, commonly called a rix dollar, as a reward; if he kills or captures a leopard he gets ten, and three for a wolf.⁷¹) The rewards are intended to stimulate hunters, some of whom have been made so eager that they have learned only with the loss of their lives how fierce a lion is to touch and how dangerous are the teeth and claws of a dying animal.

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offer premiums for the destruction of these beasts. The original scale was: for catching and killing a lion, 6 reals; a "tiger" or hyena, 4 reals; and a leopard 3 reals (D., June 22, 1656). In every case the dead animal was to be exhibited to the Commander of the Fort.

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They use for the same purpose and hold in equal esteem the Canna plant, which is perhaps our hemp.⁽⁴⁾ The seeds of it do not seem very different from those which I once ate in Madrid, fried in the pan with pepper, oil and salt, and called canamones by the Spaniards.

The number of animals here of earth, air, and water, and both domestic and wild, is so prodigious that it is like living in a zoo. Let one example serve for all: more than a thousand elephants sometimes feed together in a herd, and some of them are of such a size that I have seen a single tooth (I should rather call it a horn) that weighed more than one hundred and thirty pounds. The number of snakes, amphibians, and insects is just as great. Each class of them splits up as a rule into four or more species, and these, I am astonished to perceive, are for the most part unknown to the Europeans and unrecognized in the writings of all naturalists. I do not want you to suppose that I am straying from the truth; you must know therefore that the most careful observers have reported the above facts to me, and have told me among other things that they have seen creatures grazing with horses' heads, long necks, short tails, like elephants in the rest of their parts and as big, of an almost incredible swiftness, and at the same time so little shy that they seemed domesticated. I have also heard credible witnesses state that they have seen ferocious unicorns as big as horses and like them in every limb, with a horn on the forehead as long and as thick as your arm. Others, of unimpeachable veracity, say that there are horses here with two horns, equally ferocious and of exquisite beauty. Some profess to have seen fine tall wild horses feeding in herds, and among them some fairer than snow, others darker than coal, some white with black mane and tail, and vice versa, some black with white mane and tail, all of them outclassing the Asturian breed and each a Pegasus in swiftness. I have seen with wonder a zebra of no less speed and rare beauty, artistically striped over his whole body from his ears to his tail and down his legs to the pastern with alternate bands of black and white two fingers thick. It was only in the size of his

generally chew a certain herb called *canna*. They pound it root and stem together between stones and store and preserve it in bags made of sheepskin. In October, when we were approaching the Copper Mountain, everybody was gathering this herb on the surrounding mountains as a supply for the whole year. They use it as the natives of India use betel or areca. They chew both stem and root almost all day and become thereby intoxicated, so that on account of this effect and its pleasant smell and stimulating taste, one may safely expect some advantage from its workings" (Waterhouse, 162, 165).

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ears that he differed from a horse. On such a one Absalom may have mounted for his last ride.⁸⁷)

I have observed in the case of the hippopotamus, an enormous beast whose nature is to inhabit land and water alike, that he moves his upper jaw, a peculiarity he shares with the crocodile. They say also that the fat of this animal boiled and drunk is a cure for various diseases.

On the snout of a boar with terrible tusks that was taken by hunters I have seen a horn with a backward curve not above a finger in length. On other specimens I have seen two such horns. Furthermore I have seen at least three specimens of an underground boar unknown to Europeans and commonly called earth-pigs (ant-eater). Each of them weighed over one hundred pounds, and had large donkey's ears, a long snout, and for the rest in head, bristle and body resembled a boar, save that its tail was thick, projecting, tapering, and ended at a length of two feet in a sharp point. This creature is armed with no teeth, but has tremendous knife-like claws, four on the front paws, five on the back, with which it protects itself against all attack. With these it also digs a hole for itself, now in one place, now in another, on rising ground. This hole usually faces East, and has a narrow entry barely big enough to admit the animal; it then slopes gently down and continues in a straight course for several cubits, widening out more and more until at the end it forms a vaulted spherical chamber big enough to hold a man. When the ant-eater is hollowing out its den, it keeps casting out with its hind legs the earth that is scraped away in front by the fore-paws. In this cave it lies by day, but at night-fall it comes out in quest of food, feeding on ants or on their eggs, which it licks up by thrusting its thin tongue, which is a foot and a half in length, into a swarm of ants, or an ants' nest. Their diet is, I suppose, the reason that I found their flesh so tasteless and insipid. Some people tell me that they have seen specimens three times as big as I have described.

Experience has shown that the horses for domestic use which the Council imported from Persia and Java at a great price are long-lived, spirited, and excellent in every way⁸⁸). They have thriven so well here and bred so fast that some of the settlers drive round in a coach-and-four,

⁸⁸) Horses were first imported into the Cape from Batavia in 1633; in 1685 they had increased so greatly in number that some were sold by public auction to the farmers, at an average price of £4 16s. (the cost of 4 or 5 fine large oxen); in 1689, they had so far deteriorated in size and condition that some stud horses were imported from Persia to improve the breed (Theal, II, 38, 134, 257).

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or even a coach-and-six, like princes, and sometimes keep as many as ten horses for various purposes. Every year, too, along with the four cohorts of infantry the Colony reviews two squadrons of dragoons, ranged under their colours and very obedient to their leaders. This place also produces very hardy oxen, as swift as those found in India near the Ganges. 000

Finally must be mentioned the very destructive wild dogs, which hunt up and down in packs of ten or twenty; when they come on sheep or calves, with the utmost savagery they promptly disembowel some and tear the udders and bellies of others with their long sharp teeth. In a moment they destroy a whole flock unless the watchful herds or trusty dogs can keep them off. 136 •

About the two-horned rhinoceros, the eland, the bison, the bonassus, or hairy bull, and other animals, I think it unnecessary to write. I am afraid so many huge beasts may disgust you. There is only this I should like to add: I have been told by several people that on drinking half a pint of the blood of one of these animals immediately after its being taken, patients who have long languished in sickness have recovered. Nor would I have you ignorant that there is no animal that has been seen here of which the flesh when roasted is not suitable to men.

Nothing could be more wholesome than the air here, more clear than the atmosphere, more mild and temperate than the sky which but rarely thunders and lightens and then not for long. Exception must be made only of the blustering gales that blow every year from various quarters in the chilly South, and of the showery trade wind, the harbinger of rain. When these are raging I have seen the neighbouring mountains covered for several days with snow and frost, even in the middle of December, when the sun here is at its zenith, which is a very remarkable thing. In July I have seen water covered with ice, and hail in the valleys. Indeed lately hail of such size fell that a youth in his teens, a promising lad, the son of one of our citizens, was killed. He was coming home through the wilds with a slave, and he and his companion were overtaken by the storm four miles from the Cape and died of cold. Furthermore the struggle between the winds is sometimes so great that I have seen four ships riding at anchor together in our harbour all facing different winds at the same time, one East, one North West, a third North East, and the last South West. Even if but one wind blows at a time, it is very unsteady, shifting its quarter often in one and the same day, a fact supported by the universal testimony of all sailors, who state that in rounding the Cape they have often been aware of the greatest changes in the wind. 132

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The more distant the veld is from us, the more grassy it is, the richer in plants, and the more suited to cultivation. It abounds in oxen and sheep and other animals, as well as every kind of wild beast, so that, as I have said, it is like a zoo; and the mountain glades are so full of huge creatures that there is little danger to man from lions or other wild animals, for there is everywhere ready for them to rend and tear a supply of victims both domesticated and wild which they can easily pounce upon with less danger to themselves than if they attacked men who are generally armed.

There are quarries, and the mountains are pregnant with various metals. Sometimes the soil is rich in gems. And the abundant shady woods and tall stout trees are suited for constructing both houses and ships. Also there are the many wild fruit trees which could without doubt be improved by cultivation. Among others I have seen a species of olive, often warmly praised but as yet, through what chance I know not, neglected. It may be that the method of cultivation is unknown, and that no one has been found who understands the manufacture of the oil.

Near us are many fields of various kinds; that is to say, in a length of one hundred feet you will often find three or four kinds of soil: there barren sand, there gravel, elsewhere clay, and then marsh, mud, flint and rocks. This is the reason, I think, that the ground under corn does not yield crops that ripen uniformly at the one time, but some patches are more advanced than others. So a farmer does not steadily carry out the mowing of the crops once he begins, but turning his reaping-hook from the unripe corn, he goes now along this furrow, now along that, selecting what is ready for the sickle.

The sun is rarely so hot as to scorch the crops; blight is still rarer. The women of the interior, to whose lot this task even at the present day, from old custom and ancestral precedent, still falls, do not dig the soil with mattock or dibble, but with a rake.

The natives on this side of the mountain enthusiastically hire out their labour for a modest wage, and toil more submissively than Spartan helots. They are apt in applying their hands to unfamiliar tasks. Thus they readily acquire the veterinary skill to cure scab in sheep, and they make faithful and efficient herds. They train oxen for use in ploughing; and if put in charge of a wagon, coach or cart, they are found exceedingly quick at inspanning or outspanning or guiding a team. Some of them are very accomplished riders, and have learned to break horses and master them. You would swear it was a Sarmatian galloping over the open plain. Runaways, vagrants and

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it never injures the greatest glutton, even if he consumes whole bunches of the largest size. Indeed it is maintained that men invalided after a long voyage, their health broken by their sufferings, and perhaps afflicted with dysentery and gripes, have often been cured as if by a specific on eating berries and their skins together with a little bread. Sufferers from other diseases have also, it is said, been cured.

Then in this land there is, I might almost say, everlasting spring, by reason of the sunny flowers with their lively scents and gay liveries. Here too are mountains, hills, valleys, meadows, groves, all so filled with grasses, and shrubs, with grain, and aromatic herbs, that verdant Spain compared with such fertility would show like the barren deserts of Arabia or Libya. So sweet have I found the breath of these scents in my nostrils that at times I could have wished myself all nose the better to sate myself with perfumes the fragrance of which was as far beyond all pastiles and incense, and Sabaeen thuribles, all the perfumeries of Italy and pharmacies of Spain, the shops of the dealers in spices, and the vendors of myrrh, as a rose is sweeter than a marigold. All these flowers proclaim the hand of the Omnipotent Creator in their structure, so perfect are they in all their parts, so delicate in design, so infinitely various, so bright, so manifold in their shapes of beauty; with the sweetness of their scent they seem to cry aloud God! God!; and as they spring up anew each returning year they show forth plainly in a symbol the doctrine of the resurrection of the dead. 137

The farmer here has no great cause to fear locusts, hail, blight, mildew or other disasters to his crops. The birds, however, unless prevented, as they usually are, by the skill and wakeful vigilance of the natives on guard, do sometimes ravage a field, a vineyard, or a garden. And there are root-worms, centipedes, canker-worms, caterpillars, beetles, as well as other insects so small that they are scarcely visible but almost elude the sight of our eyes, which sometimes devour vines, young corn not yet grown into the stalk, fruits, peas, and other similar vegetables. The crops are wormed, and the farmers wretchedly cheated of their hopes. 136

No tax, or at any rate a very small one, is laid upon the farmer. All that is required of him is that in the fourth year after he has begun to cultivate his farm he should pay a tithe of the grain harvested according to his own calculations; and the farm is given free to each man by 600